MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

1141 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

Media Advisory

Contact: Melissa Scallan Phone: 228-523-4124

15-28-MMS May 8, 2015

State of Our Coast conference set Wednesday

BILOXI, Miss. – The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources will hold its inaugural conference, "State of Our Coast: Moving Forward Together," from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, 2015.

Speakers include MDMR Executive Director Jamie Miller, Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann and LSU professor Rex Caffey, Ph.D.

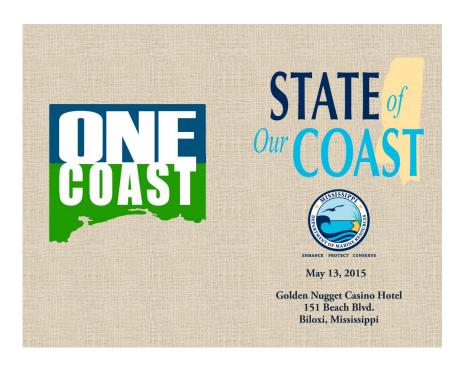
Participants also will hear updates on red snapper season and the Governor's Oyster Council.

The conference will be held at the Golden Nugget Casino, 151 Beach Blvd., Biloxi

An agenda for the conference is attached.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at www.dmr.ms.gov.

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State of Our Coast Moving Forward Together

Wednesday, May 13, 2015 Morning Session



12:00 p.m1:00 p.m.	11:45 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.	11:25 a.m11:40 a.m.	11:00 a.m11:20 a.m.	10:45 a.m 11:00 a.m.	10:25 a.m10:40 a.m.	10:05a.m 10:20 a.m.	9:30 a.m 10:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m 9:25 a.m.	7:30 a.m 9:00 a.m.
LUNCH with keynote speaker Dr. Rex Caffey Economics and Ecosystem Services Dr. Rex H. Caffey is a Professor of Natural Resource Economics in the LSU Department of Agricultural Economics	Mississippi's NFWF Planning Project Tom Strange, Natural Resource Scientist Sustainable Ecosystem Restoration, LLC Dr. Robert Kröger, Chief Scientific Officer Covington Civil & Environmental, LLC.	ResearchFishing for Answers Dr. Kelly Lucas, Chief Scientific Officer, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources	BREAK	Creating Opportunities Through Nature Based Tourism Malcolm White, Director of Visit Mississippi Mississippi Development Authority	Changes in Habitats and Life Styles in Hancock County Jerry Boos, Local Gulf Coast Historian	We Happy Few Walker Foster, Vice President of Government Contracts VT Halter Marine	Tidelands and Coastal Preservation Delbert Hosemann, Mississippi Secretary of State	Introductions & Welcome Jamie Miller, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources	Registration & Coffee

State of Our Coast Moving Forward Together





4:20 p.m4:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.– 4:20 p.m.	3:50 p.m 4:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.– 3:50 p.m.	3:10 p.m3:30 p.m.	3:00 p.m3:10 p.m.	2:20 p.m3:00 p.m.	2:00 p.m 2:15 p.m.	1:15 p.m2:00 p.m.
Question and Answer	Panel - Governor's Oyster Council Update Jamie Miller, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Dave Dennis, Council Chairman Alan Sudduth, Committee Co-chairman Tish Williams, Committee Co-chairman Clay Wagner, Committee Co-chairman	Question and Answer	Panel - Red Snapper Update Matt Hill, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Chris Blankenship, AL Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Dr. Robert Leaf, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Dale Diaz, Gulf Council	BREAK	Question and Answer	Panel - Cross State Partnership for Restoration George Ramseur, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Carl Ferraro, AL Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Frank Cole, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources	Question and Answer	Panel - Restoring Our Gulf Jamie Miller, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Gary Rikard, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Justin Ehrenwerth, Restore Council Chuck Wilson, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative Laura Bowie, Gulf of Mexico Alliance

4:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

Closing

Jamie Miller, Executive Director

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources